THE MANAGEMENT OF THE *Four last Years* VINDICATED:

In which Her late MAJESTY, and Her MINISTRY, are fully cleared from the false Aspersions cast on them in a late Pamphlet, Entituled;

An Enquiry into the Miscarriages *of the Four last Years Reign, &c. And the Malice of the Faction in that, and other late Libels, is expos'd.*

Recommended to all true *Englishmen*, against the next Election of a New Parliament.

Whilst Honesty is still the same,
Whether it win, or lose the Game;
True as the Dial to the Sun,
Altho' it be not shin'd upon. Hudib.

Sold by *J. Morphew* near *Stationers Hall*, 1714.

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AC911.1114.3942

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE *Four last Years* VINDICATED, &c.

To the Honeſt *Freeholders* and *Voters* of GREAT BRITAIN.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is now Time to break Silence; the *Whigs* have had a fair Field, a long Run, to ſet their Caſe in the beſt Light poſſible: They have been heard without Interruption; have had all the Indulgence Men could reaſonably wiſh, as well in the Liberty, as in the Exerciſe of their Prerogative in Scribling; and it muſt be confeſſed, the ſhort Space

of Time ſince their Reſumption, has been very productive that Way: Swarms of Pamphlets and Libels have iſſued from the Preſs, which have made a very tunable Cry in the Ears of the Party. We have heard them with Patience, and, I hope, we ſhall be allowed to ſpeak in our Turn; though it is a very difficult Matter to break in upon them.

The moſt ſacred Things have not eſcaped them: The Aſhes of Her late Majeſty, of ever bleſſed Memory, have been trampled on with Indecency; the Clergy have been treated in a moſt vile and contemptible Manner; Men of the higheſt Dignity, in their Character and Station, Patriots of our Laws, Religion, and Liberties, have been ſwept among the common Lumber of Mankind; and the moſt opprobrious Names given them, ſuch as the loweſt Order of Men, even the meaneſt Miſcreants, would hardly brook. But I ſhall have too many of theſe things fall in my Way hereafter; I will therefore ſhorten the needleſs Repetition of them here, and, from the many Pieces of that Kind, ſingle out one that ſhall be the Teſt for all, as it has a Right to vie with the blackeſt Libel

bel of their whole Legend: And that it may not fall ſhort in any Quality, I will undertake it ſhall beſpeak as little good Senſe, true Argument, or indeed any Argument at all, as any of the vileſt they can produce.

This celebrated Book is called; *An Enquiry into the Miſcarriages of the laſt Four Years; wherein it appears, That a Scheme was laid to raiſe the Grandeur of* France *and* Spain; *break the Confederacy; make a ſeparate Peace; deſtroy the Eſtabliſhed Church; ſink the Trade of the Nation; betray the Queen; and bring in the Pretender*, &c.

Theſe Heads are couched in 65 Articles, ſcarce one of which has Weight enough to turn the lighteſt Feather of a Gooſe Wing, whence they owe their Original, directed by the profligate Hand of a criminal Projector, and reputed Madman. The World is ſo civil as generally to allow the Author that Character; tho' I believe it only the Whim of the Party, to give Sanction to his Works, and to acquit themſelves of the Scandal of Fathering ſo notorious a Piece.

It was long before it fell into my Hands, and longer before I was guilty of the leaſt Thought of giving it any Anſwer. But ſeeing it obtained ſo in

the

the World, by the great Drifts of them that were daily diſperſed through the Country, to influence Elections; and with the impudent Front of being addreſſed to the Freeholders of *Britain*; I confeſs, in Juſtice to my Country, it altered my Sentiments of it wonderfully, and made me think it, if not worthy, yet at leaſt neceſſary to be anſwered.

To you therefore, who are the honeſt *Freeholders* and *Voters* of *Great Britain*, this is Addreſſed: You are the People aim'd at, the Men deſign'd to be ſeduc'd by ſuch Practices. Methinks it ſhould raiſe Ardour in your Breaſts, ſhould inſpire you with Indignity, to be ſo poorly dealt with, as to be taught to give your Vote: Is not your honeſt Choice ſufficient, without being brought in Leading-ſtrings to vote? Have you not Conſciences; and ſhould they not *be void of Offence?* As you are too honeſt, ſhew them you are too wiſe to be impoſed on. You are capable, by your Scituations, to inform your ſelves in the Characters of Men; You cannot be ignorant, if you would, who are proper to be choſe: Your Intereſt, your Safety, your Religion, will dictate to you, they are to be ſuch as have been eminent

nent for their disinterested Services; who have particularly acted with regard to the *Church*, the *Peace*, and the *Trade* of these Kingdoms.

I am sensible, this were enough to warn every honest, unprejudic'd Man; and all that might be said farther would be needless, under a true State of Liberty; but there are Mists raised to be cast before your Eyes; you will be courted into Dependency, at which the honestest Natures will be apt to thaw: You will have Power on the one Side, and Promises on the other, two strenuous Advocates; and there is only one Argument to save you from the Temptation; that is, *The Interest and Liberties of your Country duly considered.* These are those Loyal Sentiments that inspir'd your honest Ancestors; these were the Springs from whence we derived our Liberties; these were the Motives by which we supported them: Keep to their Integrity, and not shame the Ashes of your dead Predecessors, by following the false Advice of your living Adversaries.

It is possible the foregoing *Pamphlet* will escape the Hands of many among you, notwithstanding the great Diligence used by the Party, to disperse them

them in such Numbers. Give me Leave therefore, dear Countrymen and Friends, to set before you, in the most impartial Light possible, a brief Recital of the Transactions of the last four Years, commencing from the Time Her late Majesty saw good to change Her M--y, which, I presume, is his Meaning; and it may serve as a Landmark, as well for those who have read that notable Piece, as those who have not.

Is there a Man, that can call himself a *Britain*, and will hear his late Sovereign aspersed? She from whom nothing but what was Good could proceed: Her Virtue, Her Piety, and other excellent Accomplishments, are Evidences of it; nay, had She not been so superlatively Good, She could not so easily have err'd in the most remarkable Lenity and Indulgence, that, perhaps, was ever shewn by any Sovereign to Her ungrateful Subjects.

It is a receiv'd Maxim, That "Kings "are the common Fathers of their "Country; and that 'tis below their "High Dignity, to be Kings of no more "than one Half of their People; Which "at last becomes the Case of Princes, "that bestow all their Favours on some "Persons only; whereas their Royal

"and

" and Paternal Care ſhould extend to
" all their Subjects : For as it frequent-
" ly happens in a private Family, the
" fond Partiality of Parents to one
" Child, begets Emulation and Hatred
" among the reſt ; ſo in a Nation, to
" ſee a Sett of Men engroſs all Places
" of Power and Profit, and enrich
" themſelves at the Expence of the Na-
" tion, it cannot but raiſe the Envy of
" a free People, who have nothing
" more at Heart, than the Glory of the
" Sovereign ; and are never more of-
" fended, than when they think him
" abridged by thoſe about him, in the
" free Exerciſe of his Regal Authority.

I take Leave to repeat this to you, as the general Senſe of Her late Majeſty's Condition, when She found Herſelf oblig'd, or, if you will, thought good to change Her M——y. You have heard, no doubt, that the good Queen was not only perpetually teiz'd with Importunities, but *driven to private Receſſes from Her own Palace, to be free from their Arrogance.* It was Time then, you will ſay, upon theſe, and other repeated Inſolencies, for Her Majeſty to exert Her ſelf, and throw off the Yoke they endeavour'd to reſtrain Her with, and cramp the Prerogative.

I ſhould not forget the Anger the Party had drawn on them, by the violent Proſecution of a Son of the National Church; for the Queen, who had before made ſome Diſcovery of their Temper, having been preſent at this ſolemn Trial, drew a melancholy Reflexion from the Warmth of thoſe who manag'd the Proſecution; whilſt, on the other Hand, the Churchmen, who defended the *Doctor* with great Loyalty and Duty, aſſerted the juſt Rights and Prerogatives of the Crown, and, with great Humility and Zeal, maintain'd the ſound Doctrine of the Church of *England*; Her Majeſty, from Her own pious Sentiments, could not but entertain very favourable ones of that Party.

You cannot but remember, how this Attempt on the Eſtabliſh'd Religion, by the trying and ſentencing one of its Sons, put the true Churchmen in a juſt Conſternation: And the better Sort, the Nobility, Gentry, Clergy, ſubſtantial Freeholders, and good Citizens, made Loyal Addreſſes to the Queen, expreſſing their Diſlike of that Trial, diſclaiming all Principles inconſiſtent with Her Prerogative; many of them expreſſing a liking to have the

the Parliament diſſolved. Hence followed a Change in the M——y, and a Diſſolution of that Parliament ſoon after.

What I write, is well known to moſt of you: You ſet your Hands, and, I fancy, your Hearts to theſe Articles. Writs were iſſued ſoon after, for a new Parliament, to meet the 25*th* of *November* following (1710.) The Senſe of the whole Kingdom was ſoon declared in the Choice of Repreſentatives; a Majority ſo great on the Church Side was hardly to be expected; and the Hopes of the good Event of it hardly to be exceeded. The Parliament met at the Time appointed; and a general Face of Joy appeared throughout the whole Kingdom. Give me Leave to inſert a ſmall Part of Her Majeſty's Speech to Her new Parliament, to ſhew there was no Deſign at this Time, *to abandon our Allies, raiſe the Grandeur of* France *and* Spain, *or bring in the Pretender.*

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I *Have, by calling this Parliament, made appear the Confidence I place in the Duty and Affection of my Subjects; and I meet you here with the greateſt Satisfaction; having no Reaſon to doubt, but that I ſhall find ſuch Returns as will add new Life to*

our Friends, and entirely diſappoint the Hopes of our Enemies.

To this End, I ſhall recommend to you what is abſolutely neceſſary for our common Safety.

The carrying on the War in all its Parts, but particularly in *Spain, with the utmoſt Vigour, is the likelieſt Means, with God's Bleſſing,* to procure a ſafe and honourable Peace for Us, and all our Allies, whoſe Support and Intereſt I have truly at Heart.

To ſhew that Her Majeſty was then really in Earneſt to carry on the War, and to keep the *Whigs* from clamouring, the Duke of *Marlborough* was ſent again to command the Army; the Supplies for the Summer Service were as readily voted, as in other Years: Here was a whole Campaign waſted, by the Emperor's withdrawing his Troops juſt on the Time of Action, in taking a ſingle Town, *not much bigger than a Pidgeon-Houſe*, while Affairs in *Catalonia* were reduced to a deſperate State.

Theſe Diſcouragements Her Majeſty bore with Patience, and reſolved yet to ſee what Efforts the Allies would make, and to join with them, to haſten the Concluſion of the War.

This

This Parliament you then returned, unluckily fell into an Enquiry after the Miſmanagements that had crept into the Adminiſtration. And firſt, in relation to the War in *Spain*, where they diſcovered *great Negligence, and the Profuſion of vaſt Sums of Money given by Parliament.* Which Miſcarriages, ſay the Lords and Commons, in their Repreſentation to the Queen, *are juſtly to be imputed to thoſe, who had the Management of Affairs here.*

They likewiſe diſcovered and repreſented, That an unequal Burden had been laid on us, in reſpect to the War in *Flanders* and *Portugal*; and that we had been clogg'd with a great Diſproportion, to our Prejudice, in our Naval Quota's.

They diſcovered *many notorious* * *Embezzlements, and ſcandalous Abuſes, in the Victualling of the Queen's Navy; to the defrauding the Publick, and Injury of the Seamen.*

* See the Journals of Parliament at that Time.

They pinch'd the *Whigs* yet cloſer, by reſolving, *That the taking ſeveral Sums of Money from the Contractors for furniſhing Bread and Bread-Waggons, for the Army in* Flanders, *was unwarrantable and illegal: And that the Two and a Half* per Cent. *deducted from the Foreign Troops in Her*

Vid. ibid.

Her Majesty's Pay, was Publick Money, and ought to have been accounted for, which it never was ; but made a grand Perquisite to enrich the General.

Which Resolutions being laid before Her Majesty, She made the following Answer : *I have a great Regard for whatever is laid before me by my Commons ; I will do my Part to redress what you complain of.*

Accordingly their Favourite D—— was order'd to be prosecuted in the *Exchequer* ; but he wisely thought fit to withdraw himself out of the Kingdom: The mighty Spirit could not stand this intrepid Shock.

Another Thing discovered by this Parliament of yours was, * *That the Sums arising from the many Conquer'd Places, had not been duly applied to the Service of the War, as they ought, in Justice, to have been ; but converted to the Profit of them, for whom they were conquered : That a Treaty of Barrier had been concerted with the* D —— h, *disadvantageous to the Trade of the Subjects of* Great Britain ; *and therefore humbly desir'd the Queen to take Care to redress Her People.*

* See the *Commons Representation.*

It was this Parliament which shew'd the Queen, *That the many Millions given, with Intent to shorten the War, had been*

Representation.

the

the only Cauſe of its Continuance; ſince thoſe to whom the Profits of it accrued, did not care to relinquiſh that which brought them in ſo rich a Harveſt from Great Britain.

In fine, It was this Parliament that acquieſc'd with the Queen, in *putting an End* to a chargeable War; when thoſe who *delighted in it*, would have kept the Burden ſtill upon the impoveriſh'd People.

Theſe were ſome of the Schemes the Author of the *Miſcarriages* aſſerts, *were laid to raiſe the Grandeur of* France *and* Spain. I know, GENTLEMEN, you have Honeſty enough to judge Rightly of theſe things: I will therefore ſhew you, that the Queen did *not break the Confederacy, make a ſeparate Peace*, nor intend any ſuch thing; but was meerly neceſſitated, by the *Conduct of the Allies*, and of the *Whigs*, to enter upon Terms of Peace. I muſt beg your Patience therefore, if I am ſomewhat long in going through theſe two ſpecious Articles; becauſe I have Reaſon to ſuppoſe, they will clamour againſt honeſt Gentlemen, as an Invective at their Elections, in order to prevent their being choſe again to repreſent you in Parliament. You will reflect, what Reaſons

ſons you have to repent your Choice; and I promiſe to make uſe of no Arguments but the cleareſt Matters of Fact, to ſet you right, in reſpect to the Notions you may be apt to conceive of theſe Matters.

You will eaſily remember, that, during the Courſe of the laſt War, there had been Treaties ſet on Foot for effecting a General Peace; the one at the *Hague*, the other at *Gertrudenberg*; in the Years 1709--10, in the latter of which, the *French* conceived themſelves to be too haughtily and arrogantly treated by the *D——h*; whether true or no, I pretend not to ſay, nor is it much to the Purpoſe: But this the *French* King, after another Campaign, laid hold of as a Pretence to apply himſelf to *Great Britain*, to ſee what Effect his Offers might have on that Side, for effecting a general Peace.

PEACE, Gentlemen, was a bleſſed Word at this Time; you who bore the Burden of the Taxes, are as well able to judge as any Men, how ſweetly it ſounded in the Ears of an *Engliſhman*, and how readily we ought then to embrace it, on any reaſonable Terms. In the Month of *April* 1711, the Queen received a Propoſal from *France* of this kind.

kind. Nothing would have been more contrary to the Uſage of War, or the Clemency of Conquerors, than to refuſe the Offers of a ſupplicating Enemy. Theſe therefore the Queen receiv'd, not with Intent to keep them from Her Allies, but in Hopes they might produce ſome happy Event, in giving Peace to *Europe*; the Honour of which could not but be ſome Satisfaction to Her, if it were effected under Her Umbrage.

I ſhall go no further in Remarks: The Queen, with a great deal of Pleaſure, immediately communicated theſe to the *D——h*, aſſuring them, *That in making Peace, as in making War, She would always act in perfect Concert with them.* The States, in return to this, expreſſed their Thanks for it, and ſeemed heartily deſirous of Peace, and ready to enter in any Method with the Queen to obtain it.

At the ſame Time they very friendly gave their Opinion, *That the Overture was too general; and it was neceſſary the Queen ſhould oblige the* French *to explain themſelves more particularly.* The Queen comply'd with this, and forthwith inſiſted, *That the* French *ſhould be more direct and particular in their Overtures.*

This the Queen immediately did, and

the utmoſt Diligence was us'd in puſhing this Negotiation forward, as you ſee, in cloſe Concert with the *D——h*, and not ſeparately, nor with any indirect View; and the ſtricteſt Care taken, according to the Deſire of the Miniſters in *Holland*, whom the Queen had conſulted, to preſerve the Secret.

But by the ſlow Method of Treating, which, in theſe Caſes, is unavoidable, it was the latter End of *September* before more explanatory Articles could be obtain'd from *France*. What did the Queen then do? It was only four Days before the Earl of *Strafford* was order'd to repair, with all Diligence, to *Holland*, to acquaint the States with what had been done; to communicate to them the Propoſitions; and to aſſure them, that the Queen was wholly determined to accept of no Advantages to Her ſelf, contrary to their Intereſts, nor unleſs they had all imaginable Satisfaction, in reſpect to their Barrier, their Trade, *&c.* and likewiſe to exhort them to join with Her Majeſty, in promoting the *Strickeſt UNION among all the Confederates*, as the means to make the Negotiation ſucceſsful: The ſame Aſſurances being given to all the Allies.

Before

Before these Orders could be executed, the whole Confederacy was industriously alarmed. Jealousies were every where sown, and the most licentious Clamours rais'd at Home against the Queen's Proceedings; wherein the Party diligently exerted themselves, and at the same time that they were for overthrowing the Methods of Peace, were, underhand, busy in destroying the very Properties of carrying on the War, by cramping Supplies, and running down publick Credit.

The real Annual Expence of the Kingdom, amounted to more than *Seven Millions*; whereas, it is certain, we were not in a Condition to raise near *Six Millions* in the Course of a Year; so that had the War been continu'd under the same Disproportion we had acted for some Time, about *Nine Millions* would have been the true Charge of a second Year, and about *Eleven Millions* that of a third.

On this Head, the Queen found Her self oblig'd to declare to the *Imperialists*, and the *D——h*, That if they would not allow of carrying on the Treaty for Peace, but were desirous to continue the War, She was resolv'd to comply with them; but that, in Justice to Her

ſelf, and them, She was to let them know, that She could no longer bear ſo diſproportionate a Burthen as She had hitherto done, or that the requiſite Efforts would ſtill encreaſe. But to this there was no Anſwer, but the Excuſes of Inability: Nor could even the *D—h* be got to gratify a Project of the D. of * *M——h*, for leaving a Body of Horſe all the Winter on the Frontiers of the *Low Countries*; by which means great Advantages would have accrued to the common Cauſe.

* See the *News at that Time.*

The Imperial Miniſters confeſſed very freely, that their Maſter expected the Queen ſhould furniſh all the Money; and that the utmoſt he could do, was to ſend Troops at Her Expence: Yet avowing to break off the Negotiation of Peace, and continue the War till the whole *Spaniſh* Monarchy was conquered.

I need not tell you, *Gentlemen*, how kind, how generous the good Queen had been to their Maſter; had lent him Her Fleet, Her Troops, Her Treaſure, to ſupport him. You remember how the Empire was freed from inevitable Ruin by Her Arms. But I will refreſh your Minds with another Inſtance of Her Goodneſs to the preſent

E——r,

E——r, and of Her Affection and ſtrict Adherence to Her Confederates, in promoting the true Intereſt of the Alliance, preferable to all Engagements whatever. On the Death of his Brother, the late Emperor *Joſeph*, who died much about the Time that theſe Negotiations were firſt in Diſpute: The *French* Emiſſaries every where gave out, that the Election would be conteſted, perhaps, in Favour of the Elector of *Bavaria*. And what might make this ſeem feaſible, the preſent E——r was then in *Spain*, and the *French* ready to pour into *Germany* a numerous Army to influence the Affair. Her Majeſty did not here ſwerve from Her former Goodneſs; She eſpous'd his Intereſt, engag'd the *D——h*, and all others whom She had the leaſt Power with, to do the ſame; and it will not be deny'd, but that Her Aſſiſtance here was a very great Point carry'd in his Favour, and He was Elected Emperor threon.

Now as to the Event, it is but reaſonable to think, that this muſt cauſe a great Alteration in the Councils of *Europe*, and give a new Turn to the Sentiments of many Princes: For though we had fought to make an Arch-Duke of *Auſtria*, King of *Spain*, we had not en-

engag'd to procure that Dominion for an Emperor of *Germany*: And this ſeems to have been ſo little the Deſign, that his Father and elder Brother had been oblig'd to relinquiſh their Rights, before the Treaty for ſending him to *Spain* was ratify'd: Otherwiſe the Suppoſition will naturally turn this Way, that the late Emperor might as well have been ſent as his younger Brother.

There was Reaſon to believe, that the Court of *Vienna* themſelves began to cool in the Project of recovering *Spain* and the *Indies*; if not, ſome of the Princes of the Empire thought it a Matter worth conſidering, whether they ſhould ſuffer the *Imperial* and *Spaniſh* Crowns to be united. In *Holland*, a Partition of the *Spaniſh* Monarchy ſeem'd almoſt the general Scheme; and that the Project of driving out King *Philip*, was look'd on there as a meer Chimera: Though all the Cry by the *Whigs* at Home was, *Spain and the Indies*. Very well might the good Queen tell Her Parliament, who Addreſs'd on this Subject; *That She was ſorry any one could think, She would not do Her Endeavour to wreſt the* Spaniſh *Monarchy out of the Hands of the Houſe of* Bourbon; meaning, if it had been practicable. Here,

Here, *Gentlemen*, you ſee your injur'd Queen vindicated from the ſcandalous Imputation of *deſerting Her Allies*, and *breaking the Confederacy*. It may be proper for me to refreſh your Memories likewiſe, that all the powerful Reaſons beforementioned, had not any Weight to alter the Sentiments of thoſe, whoſe Intereſt it was to carry on the War; and it is with ſome Pleaſure that I tell you, they found their Error in that Reſolution; and that they were, in the End, oblig'd to come into Her Majeſty's Meaſures; the Emperor excepted. Thoſe among the *D——h*, who had been the moſt ſanguine for carrying on the War, began to cool in their Sentiments; and declar'd, in their Letter to Her Majeſty, "That they "were now reſolv'd to join with Her, "to enter into the Meaſures She had "taken for Peace, and to conclude, and "ſign it jointly, and at the ſame Time "with Her. And alſo to enter into "new Engagements with Her about "the Succeſſion and Barrier; to make "a new Treaty of it, and to conclude "and ſign it before the Peace." Here that excellent Princeſs, the late Queen, was flooded with Joy; Her tender Sentiments to Her own People, and Her Con-

Concern, in general, for the Good of *Europe*, and preventing the further Effuſion of Chriſtian Blood, made Her hope, that the Misfortunes which had been occaſion'd by the former Diſunion of the Allies, would now, in a great Meaſure, be prevented; and the Anſwer She made them in one of the Columns of Her Letter, expreſſes another Senſe than what is ſuggeſted by the abovemention'd Author, that *She deſerted Her Allies*, and *broke the Confederacy*. I cannot forbear giving you the Words, there being ſomewhat of that peculiar Goodneſs always abounding in Her.

"On our Part, we deſire you firmly "to be perſwaded, That we have ever "in our Eye the Example and wiſe "Conduct of that *Great QUEEN*, our "Predeceſſor, who contributed ſo much "to the Support of your Common-"wealth, at the Time when your brave "Anceſtors laid the firſt Foundation of "it; and that we look upon it as one "of the greateſt Glories of our Reign, "that we have not only imitated, but "even ſurpaſſed whatever that *Princeſs* "did for the Eſtabliſhment of your "State, and the Increaſe of your Power. "This is alſo what We ſhall continue

"to

" to do: We ſhall take your Intereſt
" to Heart equally with our own; and
" We ſhall be ready to do all that lies
" in our Power to advance you; being
" ſorry that *We are not in a Condition*
" to ſupport both yours, and thoſe of
" our common Allies, as effectually as
" We could have done the laſt *Spring.*

This does not run in the Strain of One betraying the Confederacy, ſelling Her Allies, and other malicious Invectives thrown on Her. You ſee it plain, She was neceſſitated to make Peace; and a better might have been made, but for Diſtruſts Abroad, and inſolent Clamours rais'd by the Party at Home.

I think this is ſufficient to clear the Queen, and Her Parliament, in that Point: As every thing had been communicated to Her Allies, ſo did She frankly lay all Matters before them. Your Repreſentatives ſaw, and approved what was done; they concurr'd in a perfect Harmony with Her; they gave Her * Thanks *for delivering them from a conſuming Land War.* You ſeconded their Reſolutions by numerous Addreſſes from all Parts: You will not, you cannot forget, that this was the Senſe of the Nation; and the Obligations you muſt therefore lie under to

* See the joint Addreſs of both Houſes, and the Queen's Anſwer.

thoſe induſtrious Patriots, who aſſiſted the Queen in attaining the difficult Steps of Peace.

You ſhew'd your ſelves Men of Integrity in your Choice of them; I know nothing can have perverted you ſince. There is not a Conſideration of Moment enough to give you the leaſt Reflexion, if you avoid giving Ear to Scandal and flagitious Suggeſtions, fomented on purpoſe to delude you. Let not the preſent Scene of Power intimidate you. You have a Prince on the Throne, who wants no Judgment, no excellent Qualities that are proper to govern by; we are all equal Partakers of the Bleſſings of His Reign: He has promis'd it, and will make it good. Prefer therefore the Choice of good Men, with an impartial View to the Intereſt of your Country; be directed by your own Thoughts, contemn Bribery, and look on the Effect of clandeſtine Solicitations to be the next thing to it: Do this, and you cannot err; let your Voices flow from you freely; ſhew the Firmneſs of true *Britains*, without heſitating at the Influence of a C——t Party; you are in no Danger from their Reſentment, and your Choice of good Members will make you yet ſecurer.

Let

Let that Loyalty, ever conſpicuous in the true Members of the Eſtabliſh'd Church, be the *Compaſs* you ſteer by, and take that only Courſe to do your Country Service, to elect Members, who have always approved themſelves in its true Intereſt, and conducted it hitherto through many perilous Storms.

I know the Hopes of the Party conſiſt much in the Changes made at Court: And on this Occaſion I muſt tell you, Gentlemen, 'tis the indubitate Right of the Sovereign to make free Choice of his Dependents, as it is to you in the Election of your Repreſentatives: A Prince would have leſs Power than a Subject, that was debarr'd it. We are in this Caſe dutifully to ſuppoſe, that he chooſes them for the beſt Ends of Government, and will diſcard them when they purſue the worſt: A good Prince ſtands between his People and a rapacious M——y; He will protect them from their Gripes and Oppreſſions; and a good Parliament (the Effect of your own Power) aſſiſts Him in doing of it.

I hope this is a pardonable Digreſſion, and that I ſhall not be ſtigmatiz'd for an Incendiary for thus honeſtly laying before you your Duty; the Obligations you lie under, both to God and your Coun-

try, as you reſpect your Religion and Liberties. But I muſt drop this Argument a while, to purſue the reſt of the Hiſtory of the *Four laſt Years*; and chiefly in thoſe Points which our *Lunatick* calls *MISCARRIAGES*. I am ſure, if any Man in his Senſes writ that noble Piece, the *Whigs* would have much more Reaſon to be aſham'd of it than they are, if it be poſſible for them to bluſh at any thing; but there I have a Doubt.

If I have ſhewn the Queen blameleſs in making Peace; I will ſhew Her yet leſs blameleſs in Her Conduct, with reſpect to Her Allies: And this brings me back to the Thread of the Story where I left off.

Her Majeſty finding the E——r inflexible, as to the Meaſures of Peace, was under a very great Concern for his Affairs in *Catalonia*, where he had left his Conſort and Troops, who ſeemed much expos'd. Having a Senſe of this much at Heart, She thought of a Way to relieve them, and ſhew Her wonted Clemency to the *Catalans*: By Her Intereſt at *Utrecht*, She ſet on Foot a Treaty for the Evacuation of *Catalonia*. Her Aim herein was, to ſecure the return of the Empreſs, and the Imperial Troops;

Troops; and since She could no longer support the *Catalans* by Her Arms, to provide for them by the Terms of Peace; and to leave as little Room as possible for *France* or *Spain* to attack His Imperial Majesty, when the Treaties between Her and the States General were concluded with *France*. This Point She happily effected, and the E——r's Ministers comply'd with it; which very probably they would not have done, any more than with the Treaty of a General Peace, had not the Benefit Her Majesty design'd Him been of real Service.

Whilst I am speaking of this, it will be necessary to clear the Conduct of the Queen, and Her Parliament, in respect to the *Catalans*; of which such great Clamours have been rais'd against them, and made an Article of Reproach in the very History I am answering. Were there any Facts in the things they are charged with, I confess, it might well alarm you; but you will see how little there is sometimes in these publick Outcries.

In the aforesaid Treaty for the Evacuation of *Catalonia*, there is this Article obtain'd for that People by the Queen: "There shall be granted and publish'd

"in

" in Favour of all the Subjects and In-
" habitants of *Catalonia*, &c. Clergy
" and Laity, of what Rank ſoever, a
" general Amneſty, and perpetual Obli-
" vion of all that has been done during
" this War. And foraſmuch as the Ple-
" nipotentiaries of the Power which
" withdraws his Troops out of *Catalo-*
" *nia*, &c. have inſiſted to obtain, before
" the Evacuation, the Enjoyment of
" the Privileges of the *Catalans*, and of
" the Subjects and Inhabitants of the
" the Iſles of *Majorca* and *Ivica*. And
" ſince that Affair, by general Conſent,
" is transferr'd to the Concluſion of the
" Peace, Her *Britannick* Majeſty has
" made a reiterated Declaration, that
" She will uſe Her beſt Offices, to the
" end that the *Catalans* may enjoy
" their Privileges, *&c.* The moſt
" Chriſtian King declaring, He
" would concur with the Queen to the
" ſame End.

In Conſequence of this, by the Treaty of Peace between *Great Britain* and *Spain*, there is not only an abſolute Amneſty, with a full Poſſeſſion of all their Eſtates and Honours, but alſo the Privileges of the *Caſtillians* granted to the *Catalans*, whereby the People of *Catalonia* were entituled to hold any Employment

ployment in the *West-Indies*, or to trade directly thither, in as full and ample Manner as the People of *Castile*; from which they were formerly as much excluded as any Foreign Nation whatever. The Preservation of their antient Priviledges being likewise preserved till a Treaty of Peace should come to be treated between the Emperor and *France*.

It needs no Proof, the Matter is plain enough, that their Ruine was occasioned by their own Obstinacy; they were even courted to submit; and that they did not, was owing to those who encourag'd them to the contrary, and blindly gave them hopes of Relief, under a sense of which, they put themselves upon the foot of Subjects to the E——r, as they declared in their Answer to the Summons of the Duke *de Populi*; 'That they had shut up their 'Gates, to defend themselves against the 'ENEMY, being resolved to continue 'the War, out of an inviolable Fidelity 'which they always had for their Sove'raigne.

You see here that the Queen did not betray the *poor Catalans*, as the Party suggested: No, it was one of Her greatest Cares, that *Those who were more nearly concerned to help them*, had put it out of Her

Her Power to do more for them. Should any Complaints be put up againſt the honeſt Gentlemen of the laſt Parliament on this Occaſion; 'tis to be hoped you will draw proper Reſolutions from what has been ſaid.

The next Thing of any Moment, is the Affair of *Dunkirk*, thrown in among the Reproaches of the Adminiſtration under the late Queen. It muſt be conſider'd, that were there not much more Chaff than good Grain among his Range of Articles, it would take up an infinite deal of Time to get through them all.

The Allies had conſented indeed to ſend their Plenipo's to *Utrecht*; but they were much more intent on their Armies in the Field. They were piqu'd that the Queen would not concur with them in their Meaſures of Attacking the Enemy, when She had reaſon to fear, that Victory might have been of as bad conſequence to Her as a Defeat; by facilitating the Deſign of thoſe, who would willingly have wreſted the Negotiations as well as the Ballance of *Europe*, out of Her Hands. So that finding the Enemy offered Her better Security than She had reaſon to expect from Her Friends, for Her particular Advantages in a

Treaty

Treaty of Peace, She judg'd the Poſſeſſion of *Dunkirk* of more Importance to the Intereſt of *Britain*, than that of *Queſnoy*.

It needs not be ſo great a Wonder then, that She withdrew Her Troops to perform the former ; nor that Her General complied with his Duty in this reſpect. The Peace enſued, and *Dunkirk*, by an Article of the moſt peculiar Concern to *Britain*, was agreed to be demoliſh'd, as it was, according to the Tenor of that Article.

I muſt obſerve to you here, that if the Party clamour'd on this Head, after the opening the Canal of *Mardyke*, much more did they do ſo before that Article broke out, and even before the neceſſary Means for the Demolition of *Old Dunkirk* could be effected. The firſt Cry, was at the Delay uſed therein ; and the Suſpicion that the Deſign was not to perform it all. Their Conjectures were here defeated, the Ruine of it enſued, and Her Majeſty refuſed to remit the leaſt Punctilio, or memorable Article enjoin'd ; as you may ſee by Her Anſwer to Mr. *Tuggie*'s Memorial. I remember the Party were then ſilent for a while on this Head : At length they took the Scent of *Mardyke*, and away

they went with it full Cry. Moſt Men believed there was ſomething in it: The Queen, Her M——y, and Parliament, were cenſured: His preſent Majeſty gives in a lively Memorial concerning it, and very juſtly inſiſts on it, as an Infringement at leaſt on that Part of the Treaty. This produces an Anſwer from *France*, which clears Her late Majeſty's Conduct in this Point; and ſhews, that if contrary to the *Bona Fide* of the ſaid Treaty, yet 'twas an Evaſion which could not well be foreſeen at the Time of ſigning the Peace, and left the Queen no other Means to remedy, had She lived, than what is transferr'd, by the general Right to Her Succeſſor; and could not be call'd in Queſtion till it had taken Place.

I muſt beg of you to read the ſaid *Memorial* and *Anſwer*, for your further Information. 'Tis an Affair which ought to be handled with Circumſpection; nor had I inſtanc'd it all, but as it is charged among the Reproaches againſt the late Queen; in Juſtification of whoſe excellent Memory, I think my ſelf obliged to leave nothing unſaid that may be done with Juſtice.

Thus far as to the Allies, the Peace, the *Catalans*, *Dunkirk*, &c. As he has rang-

ed

ed his Artillery very irregularly, there might be the more Danger of doing random Miſchief, were they not, for the moſt Part, ill diſcharged, and loaded with ſuch impotent Stuff, as was not like to do much Execution; of this Denomination is the next Particular. *In the laſt Reign, about Four Thouſand Pounds per Annum were conſtantly ſent to the* Scotch *Highlanders; though they were known to be, for the moſt Part, either rank* Papiſts, *or profeſt* Jacobites. This happens to be very true; but wherein the *Miſcarriage* conſiſted, is to be prov'd.

That you may your ſelves be Judges of this Matter, I will only give you a brief Skerch of what paſſed in the Houſe of P——s on this Occaſion; and leave the Conſideration with you, how far it reflects upon the late *Queen*'s *Adminiſtration.*

The 9*th* of *April* laſt, a Motion was made in that great Aſſembly, concerning this Affair. It was there declared, "That the *Scotch Highlanders* being, for "the moſt Part, either rank *Papiſts*, or "declar'd *Jacobites*; the giving them "Penſions was, in Effect, keeping up "*Popiſh* Seminaries, and fomenting Re-"bellion." In Anſwer to which it was affirm'd, "That in doing this Par-

" ticular, they had only follow'd the " Example of King *William*, who, after " he had reduc'd the *Highlanders* of " *Scotland*, thought fit to allow Yearly " Penſions to the Chiefs or Heads of " the Clans, to keep them quiet; and " that if the then Miniſtry could be " charg'd with any Miſmanagement on " that Article, it was only for retrench- " ing and ſaving Part of that Huſh- " Money." Nothing being alledg'd a- gainſt this Apology, a Motion was made for returning the T——r the Thanks of the Houſe, for his good Services; and it was unanimouſly reſolv'd, " That the " Houſe approv'd his Conduct in that " Particular." And the Houſe of Com- mons reſolved on an Addreſs to Her Majeſty, *That She would be pleas'd to lay before them an Account of what Money had been paid to the* Highland Clans *in* North Britain, *ſince the Year* 1688; *with the Names of the reſpective Perſons to whom a- ny ſuch Sums had been paid.* By which, it ſeems, this was no new Affair.

See the Proceed- ings of Parlia- ment.

That the Pretender was favour'd un- der Her late Majeſty's Adminiſtration, is another Charge of this Author's, which he enforces in his Title; *And a Scheme laid to bring in the Pretender.* But firſt, the Queen had not got him removed

out

out of *Lorain*: No, nor did She find it practicable, whilſt a certain Prince refuſed to revoke his Paſſports, on the moſt preſſing Solicitations that could be made; tho' it were eaſie to quote Arguments of Kindneſs the good Queen had ſhewn to that very Monarch, by many conſiderable Occaſions. Much more might be ſaid on this Head, as a Reflection on another ſide; but as I ſhall ſtrain no Point that may ſeem with any intent to byaſs you; ſo I ſhall continue to lay nothing before you but what I give you authentick Quorations to juſtifie. It is certain that the Parliament Addreſſed the Queen to lay before them, *An Account of what Inſtances had been us'd with the E——r, for revoking the Paſsport granted him for the Pretender's Reſiding in the Dominions of the Duke of* Lorain, or againſt renewing the ſame: Which Her Majeſty complied with, and likewiſe laid before the * Houſe a Copy and Tranſlation of a Letter from the Biſhop of *London*, to the Baron *Le Begue*, Reſident to the States-General from the Duke of *Lorain*. Upon the full Peruſal of which, it gave ſuch Satisfaction to the Members, "That "the Houſe moved humbly to Addreſs "the Queen, returning the Thanks of "the

* *See the Proceedings of Parliament at this Time.*

" the Houſe to Her Majeſty for the In-
" ſtances She had uſed for Removal of
" the Pretender from the Dominions of
" the D. of *Lorain*; and humbly deſir-
" ing Her Majeſty to inſiſt upon, and
" renew Her Inſtances for his ſpeedy
" Removal from thence.

There is another Branch of this Article remaining, *viz. The Scheme laid to bring the Pretender in.* You ſhall judge of this too, by what I will lay before you.

In *April*, the Houſe of Lords * Addreſs'd the Queen, " That whenever She
" ſhould judge it neceſſary, She would
" iſſue Her Royal Proclamation, pro-
" miſing a Reward to any Perſon who
" ſhould apprehend and bring the Pre-
" tender to Juſtice, in Caſe he ſhould
" Land, or Attempt to Land, in *Great*
" *Britain*; and to inſiſt further on his
" Removal from thence." The Queen anſwer'd them: " That it would be a
" real Strengthening to the Proteſtant
" Succeſſion, as well as a Support to Her
" Government, that an end were put to
" thoſe GROUNDLESS FEARS and JEA-
" LOUSIES, which were ſo induſtriouſly
" promoted. Adding, that She did not
" at preſent ſee any Occaſion for ſuch a
" Proclamation, but when She did, She
" would

* *See the Addreſs and Anſwer.*

" would give Orders for having one " iſſued.

A great Clamour was raiſed by the Party at this Anſwer; when, alas, it was only the good Queen's Tenderneſs to Her People, ſuch a Proclamation coming ſuddenly and abruptly out, would have been apt to have alarmed them, and put the Nation under ſtrange Apprehenſions, which She was unwilling to do, without ſome preſent Occaſion ſhould make it requiſite.

Accordingly, ſome little time after, the apprehending ſome Perſons in *England* for Liſting Men in the Service of the Pretender, cauſing a juſt Alarm, the Queen, without ſtaying for an Addreſs of Parliament, immediately ordered ſuch a Proclamation to be iſſued; and the next Day receiv'd the Thanks of Her Parliament for ſo doing. That very Parliament, whom he charges with laying Schemes to bring him in: Deſiring the Queen to add a further Reward to the 5000*l.* therein given, the Reward of 100000*l.* which they aſſure Her they will cheerfully make Good, out of the firſt Aids to be given by Parliament. Pray give your ſelves the Trouble to read the *Addreſſes* of the Two Houſes on this Occaſion: There is a Spirit in them

them againſt the Pretender ſo apparent, as the beſt Remark is not capable to make out or reveal.

I hope you will be ſatisfy'd, Her late Majeſty's Adminiſtration is clear in this Point: The next Charge againſt the *laſt Four Years of Her Reign*, is a *Deſign to Deſtroy the* ESTABLISH'D CHURCH. I would be glad to know what Church he calls the *Eſtabliſh'd Church?* This is a Turn that the moſt extravagant of the Party have never given to the Matter. 'Tis a pleaſant Irony, to repreſent the Church, as a Monſter going to devour it ſelf.

See his Title.

There is ſomething ſo prepoſterous in it, that it admits of no manner of Anſwer, more than what may be drawn from the Refutation of it ſelf. I can ſhew you indeed the Senſe of the late Queen in the Matter: Her inviolable Affection to the *Eſtabliſh'd Church*, call'd the *Church of England*; Her inexpreſſible Piety, and tender Concern to promote its true Doctrine; and Her unbounded Charity to its Poor Clergy. I find, under this Conſtruction, the following Articles corroborated, between the late Queen and Her Parliament, for deſtroying the *Eſtabliſh'd Church.*

1. If

1. If our Historians do not deceive us, she began her Reign with a noble Benefaction to the Church, by assigning a Part of her own Revenue for the Augmentation and Maintenance of the poor Clergy. And likewise granting a Remission of the first Fruits and Tenths to the Clergy of *Ireland*.

2. Another Article of the same Nature was, Her Endeavours to strengthen the Succession in the Protestant House of *Hanover*, in many Respects; particularly, the several Attempts she made to settle it on the same Foot in *Scotland*, on which it stood in *England*, tho' she could never effect it till the Commencement of the Union.

3. That likewise, in concert with Her Parliament, to destroy the Established Church, she caused 50 new Churches to be built for the Worship thereof.

4. The Encouragement given for propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

5. Repeated Addresses for putting the Laws in Execution against Popish Recusants, *&c.*

6. A constant Vindication of the Clergy, and Promotion of Piety: with Laws for restraining excessive Gaming, Vice, Immorality and Prophaneness.

These, and many more Instances, might be produced of the Schemes laid under Her Majesty's Administration for destroying the Establish'd CHURCH.

As for Her late M——y and *P——t*, they are equally guilty on many important Articles, for endeavouring to destroy the Constitution, *sink the Trade of the Nation*, betray the Queen, and bring in the Pretender.

Witness first the Qualification-Act, incapa-

citating Men to ſerve in Parliament, who have not an Eſtate in Land, either in Poſſeſſion, or certain Reverſion; perhaps the greateſt Security that ever was contrived for preſerving the Conſtitution.

2. Their corroborating with the Queen in bringing about the Peace, and for addreſſing Her Majeſty to take particular Care of the Intereſt of Her own Subjects.

3. Their providing ſo liberally for Payment of the publick Debts, and putting a Stop to the ſcandalous Fraud of falſe Muſters in the Guards.

4. Their giving 100000*l.* to the Relief of the *Britiſh* Colonies of *Nevis* and St. *Chriſtophers*, when they had been miſerably plundered by the *French*, and their relieving us from Foreign Beggars at Home.

5. Their inviolable Warmth in vindicating the Prerogative; and their conſtant Deteſtation of the ſcandalous Practice of villifying the Clergy.

6. Their paſſing an Act for Precedence of the Princeſs *Sophia*:, the Elector Her Son, and the then Electoral Prince; and ſetting a Fine of 100000*l.* on the Head of the Pretender.

The next Charge is, for a Diſreſpect ſhewn to the illuſtrious Houſe of *Hanover*. *On Monday the* 12th *of July laſt*, ſays the Author, *a Writ was demanded by his Miniſter of the late Lord Chancellor* Harcourt, *for the Duke of* Cambridge, *now Prince of* Wales, *to come to* Great Britain, *and ſit in the Houſe of Peers. That Miniſter of his Electoral Highneſs, who asked for this Writ, was for no other Offence forbid the Court, whoimmediately departed to* Hanover. 'Tis true, ſuch a Writ was demanded, and could not by his Right of Peerage be refuſed: The Offence

Offence the Queen conceived againſt that Miniſter, was not on Account of his demanding the Writ, but, as I conceive, that he applied himſelf to the Lord Chancellor, before he had opened himſelf to her Majeſty. I cannot better clear up this Matter to you, than by directing you to read a brief Account of that Matter, together with the Queen's Letters on this Affair, which he terms diſreſpectful.

You will be Judges of that, as well as of the Reaſons given therein againſt the Prince's coming, which I will not pretend to ſpeak to.

You need not have more than what is contained in thoſe Letters, to inform you what to judge of this Matter: Your honeſt Minds will form no ill Conceptions, and I would be far from inſpiting you with any. This Affair had relation to the Dignity of the Crown, and the Privilege of Peerage, wherein your Right of Elections has no Concern. 'Tis a thing you can only hear, but not prevent; the Choice of unqualified Members you may; and were the Conſequence of clearing up theſe Aſperſions of no uſe, but to convict a ſcandalous Author, I would eat the Hand I write with, rather than uſe it to that End. 'Tis a Concern of a higher Nature, a Dread that, for want of Conviction, you might be impoſed on to commit a fatal Error in your Choice, which will always be attended with Inconvenience and Danger, when it is beſpoke by unfair and perhaps unjuſt Inſinuations, violent Suggeſtions, and ſeditious Inuendos. Theſe previouſly ſown in the Minds of the People, may affect the Senſe of the moſt honeſt and unguarded, to the Prejudice of the Common-weal. Were the Buſineſs of an Election of no more Con-

cern than that of a Wake, or Cudgel-Play, it were no matter to whom you gave your Votes, to be Lords of the Misrule; the most facetious, unthinking Country Gentlemen, who had never studied the Good of their Country farther than that of stocking their Cellars on such useful Occasions, were the fittest Persons to represent you on those jolly Festivals, or Days of Mirth: But your Dependence in Parliament, your care of chusing honest, well-qualified Members to represent you there, is of more Signification than a gingling Morrice-Dance, or a Tub of *March* Beer.

You cannot be guilty of a greater Sin, than betraying your Country, giving up the Rights and Liberties of your Fellow Subjects, in the corrupted Breath of a clandestine Vote; and this you are sure to do, if you betray your Consciences; for I must take leave to observe to you, that those who do not stand on the same Level with you in respect of voting, have, nevertheless, the same honest, and common Right to their Liberties and Properties with the best of you. This ought to make you more careful in that you do not only wrong your selves, with whom you may, with less Offence, make bold, but others, who may challenge Justice at your Hands. And perhaps, since I have called it a Sin, it may be of that Dye, as to extend their Claims for Justice farther than the Limits of *Westminster*. Such who are so injured, for want of a legal Claim in the *Constitution* to Vote for themselves, in Defence of their common Rights, are, in my Opinion, under little less Hardships, than those who are otherwise plundered, and oppressed for want of natural Power to defend themselves from Robbers: Nor

can

can you expect in this Case, but that your Honesty will be as much reflected on as your *Understanding*.

It is almost impossible to say any thing new on this Subject. Men who write honestly on one Proposition, will as naturally fall into the same Thoughts, as lesser Streams do into the general Current.

From all that has ever been said, it is plain, That Men of disinterested Principles, good Characters, great Sobriety, sufficient Estates, and untainted Honour, are fittest to be chose: Such as are just to all Men in their Dealings, religious Observers of the Laws of the Land, and of the Lives, Liberties, and Fortunes of their fellow Subjects. That always have, or are like to shew themselves frugal of the Nations Money, from the happy Inference of their Oeconomy in the Management of their own; and maintaining the Honour and Dignity of Parliaments, both by their own Morals, and the Support of publick Credit. And finally, that they be such as have a profound Veneration for *Royalty* and *Crowned Heads*; and for the true *Establish'd Church*. Men, who do not only honour it by their Communion with it; but in standing up in a zealous and just Defence of its holy Rites, and truly Orthodox Clergy. Men may frequent the Service of the Church, and yet act contrary to the Interest of it upon all other Occasions; such are they, who coolly give up the Deceney of its *Ordinances*, and the Reputation and Dignity of its Clergy: Who are content to comply with its Worship, as it is become a National Rule; but are under

no

no partieular concern to acquire any Glory to it, or to keep any Scandal from it,

If this be beſpeaking your Attention, I hope no body will find Fault with what I have ſaid; the Matter being almoſt general: For I muſt tell you, that in reſpect to *Parties*, there are Men of both Sides unworthy of your Choice; as well thoſe, who will talk much for the Church, yet ſcandalize it in their Lives and Morals; as thoſe, who are conſtantly devout, yet betray it in their Indifference to its Welfare.

Thus much for your Information, Gentlemen: I will for once be ſo vain to conclude, that I have the Thanks of every honeſt ENGLISH MAN for what I have ſaid; and it remains to you to cultivate the Senſe of it.

As to the other Branch of this Pamphlet, *The Vindication of the late Queen*, &c. I hope I ſhall be thought to have given ſome tolerable account of it in the moſt material Particulars, at leaſt ſufficient to ſupplant all Prejudice that it might have laid before you. There are other Points, wherein the Author Fights in Armour, and one cannot come ſo readily to attack him. You muſt therefore have Patience, as well as I to wait for his Proofs, which, he ſays, on many Occaſions he can produce, if it were neceſſary.

Let him ſhew, That *there was a Deſign to reform the Army, and inſtead of Proteſtant Officers, to put Iriſh Men in their Commands*; notwithſtanding, he ſays, *he can produce a Liſt, if required, of thoſe who were to be turned out in Great Britain and Ireland*: And this I am the more earneſt with him to do, becauſe ſome ſuch Aſſertion being Printed ſince the Death of the Queen, the Publiſher fell under

der the Diſpleaſure of the Regency for it; and I could never hear that the Party were able to make it out.

Let him ſhew, That *there was a private League carrying on, in order to haſten and ſupport the intended Reſtauration.* Becauſe after very much noiſe of ſuch a Thing, there was never the leaſt Evidence appeared of it.

Let him ſhew, *the Forwardneſs of a Rebellion in* Scotland, *and when the Highlanders appeared in Arms*; becauſe it is a piece of News very new to ſome People; and if he does, let him ſhew what Hand the Queen, or Her M———y, had in it.

Let him ſhew, That Praying for our preſent Sovereign King *George*, by the Name of *Elector of Brunſwick* only, was deſigned as an Affront; becauſe I take it to be conformable to the uſual Conciſeneſs of the Liturgy, and that Her Majeſty and Her M——— y were endued with other Notions.

Let him ſhew theſe, and many other Things which want proving, before he ought to gain any Credit; becauſe he that raiſes ſuch a publick Bank of News without Foundation, is like to break without being able to make one honeſt Payment.

If I were conſcious his Madneſs could have any effect upon honeſt Men, I could clearly ſhew you, that thoſe very Perſons, who have the Honour to be aſperſed by him, were chiefly ſuch as had an active Hand in the Revolution, and ſtrenuouſly appear'd in Defence of the Conſtitution in the worſt of times. 'Twas they who procured us the two ſtrongeſt Bulwarks of the *Britiſh* Liberty, *the Treaſon Bill, and the Act for Triennial Parliaments.* 'Twas they who have always been for ſaving the publick Money,

Money, by calling loudly every Session for the Aids and Estimates of the Army and Fleet, and erecting a Commission to enquire into them. 'Twas they who made the Act *for the further Limitation of the Crown in the Protestant Line*; and another, *for attaining the pretended Prince of* Wales, *and all his Adherents*. 'Twas they, who on the late Queen's Accession to the Throne, made good the Deficiencies of the former Reign, and had ever a tender regard for the Honour of Parliamentary Engagements.

'Twas they who, in the ill State of our Credit, advanc'd the Value of Exchequer Bills, by raising them to a par with Specie: Who made the Act for disqualifying Members to sit in the House without sufficient Estates.

'Twas they, who, in Honour of the *Church*, and to the Encrease of Religion and Piety, passed an Act for the building 50 new Churches, with a suitable Fund for that excellent Work.

'Twas they who procured Peace, and delivered the Nation *from a consuming Land-War*, for which they had the just Applauses of the People; and passed a Vote for setting 100000*l.* on the Head of the Pretender. As I have told you where I found them, so I shall now tell you where I leave *them*, *viz.* Passing an Act *for the better Support of his present Majesty's Household, and the Honour and Dignity of the Crown:* moving for an Addition of 300000*l.* *per Ann.* to be given with it, and voting dutiful and loyal Addresses for the speedy inviting his Majesty into these Kingdoms.

These are the Men, Gentlemen, you are cautioned against at the next Election. You will consider of their Crimes, and punish them in their Choice, as you see convenient.

I am Yours C. B.

F I N I S.